

A Report on the Third RUFORUM Biennial Conference

Theme: Partnerships and Networking for Strengthening
Agricultural Innovation and Higher Education in Africa



24-28 September 2012

Imperial Resort Beach Hotel and Imperial Botanical Beach Hotel

Entebbe, Uganda

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Background

The 2012 RUFORUM Biennial Conference was the third in the series – the first was held in Mangochi, Malawi in 2008 and the second was held in 2010 in Entebbe Uganda. The main objective of the conference was to provide a platform for agricultural research for development stakeholders in Africa and beyond to actively exchange findings and experiences, while at the same time learning lessons towards improving performance of the agricultural sector and ultimately people's livelihoods. The meeting attracted over 600 participants from more 48 countries representing all continents. The biennial conference is RUFORUM's most comprehensive meeting for the diversity of stakeholders in agriculture. It is especially dedicated to graduate students and their supervisors, grantees in RUFORUM member universities and alumni. It is a platform for peer review, quality control, mentorship, networking and shared learning.

World-class experts, leading minds in agricultural development and capacity building shared their up-to-date and authoritative practical information and experiences. The 2012 biennial conference purposefully link stakeholders in agriculture to new products and trends.

This year's conference exposed young researchers to a professional gathering and provide d avenues for strengthening communication and publications while keeping them aware of current trends on the African continent. It provided opportunities to seasoned scientists to mentor and guide the younger scientists through discussions and deliberations. It was also an opportunity to create linkages between the diversity of stakeholders in agriculture.

The objectives of the Biennial conference were to:

1. Provide opportunities for graduate students and university scientists to share research findings;
2. Enable peer review of university research and training activities;
3. Demonstrate outcomes of RUFORUM activities to stakeholders and partners;
4. Identify opportunities for partnerships and collaborative engagements with current and emerging partners;
5. Deliberate on the future strategic thrusts of the RUFORUM Network

The overall theme for the conference was "Partnerships and Networking for Strengthening Agricultural Innovation and Higher Education in Africa" , with each day focusing on:

6. Collective/Coordinated Action for Agricultural Innovation
7. Enabling Environment for Agricultural Development
8. Assessing Impact
9. The Future of African Agriculture

10. Agricultural Tertiary Education and Training

The conference covered the following subthemes:

1. Risk and Vulnerability in African Agriculture
2. Value Chains and Innovation Platforms
3. Innovations in Agricultural Information, Communication & Knowledge Management
4. Natural Resource Management
5. Plant and Animal Health Management
6. Agricultural Marketing, Trade and Policy
7. Strengthening S&T Capacity in Africa: Engaging Women and Youth
8. Monitoring and Impact Assessment
9. Partnerships and Networking

Expected Outputs from the Biennial Conference

1. Existing networks are strengthened through much closer engagement
2. Exchange of new information on innovation and research
3. New partnerships are formed or current partnerships strengthened
4. Demonstrate extent to which Universities are engaging actively with rural communities and development actors
5. Extent to which University research outputs are innovative, relevant to and supporting development
6. Highlight Alumni contribution to development as change agents
7. Extent to which RUFORUM is fulfilling its mission and the need for these changes at universities to continue happening

Meeting Format

The meeting was organised to begin with a plenary everyday, followed by parallel breakout sessions and side events. During health breaks the participants were invited to view posters. In the evening there were programs to entertain the participants. The focus of the meeting was on graduate students, young scientists and university research.

Conference Organisers

The third RUFORUM Biennial Conference was jointly organized by the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) Secretariat and the RUFORUM member universities based in Uganda - Makerere University, Gulu University, Kyambogo University and Uganda Martyrs University.

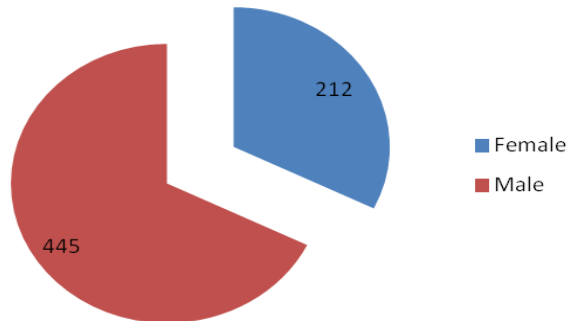
Conference Sponsors

The third Biennial Conference was generously sponsored by the following institutions and friends of RUFORUM:

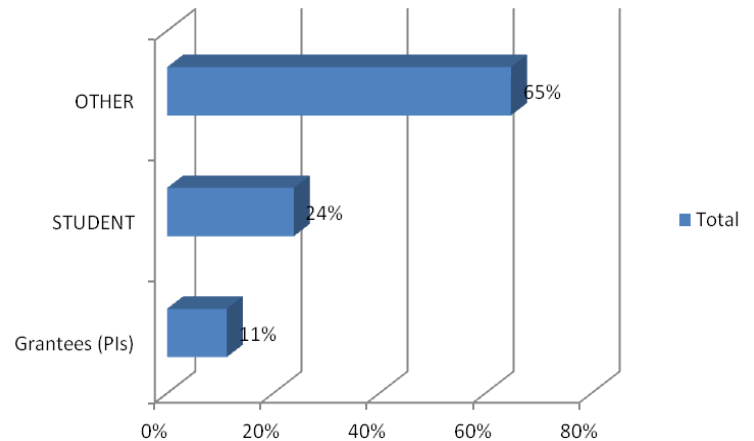
1. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
2. The World Bank
3. Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA)
4. Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa
5. The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
6. National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO) – Uganda
7. National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) - Uganda
8. Makerere University
9. Gulu University
10. Kyambogo University
11. Uganda Martyrs University
12. The Rockefeller Foundation
13. The Ford Foundation
14. Food Security Center (FSC) - Germany
15. International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

Conference Statistics

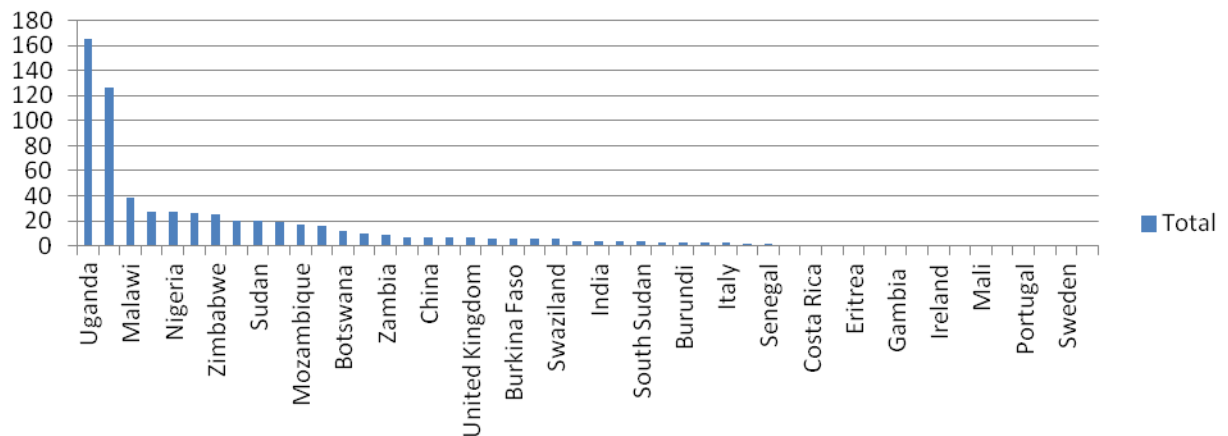
Attendance by Gender



Type of Participant by Number



Conference Participants by Country



Over 600 participants from 48 countries

THE PRE-CONFERENCE EVENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

The conference began with a number of pre-conference events on the 22nd and 23rd of September 2012 and these were:

1. The Scientific Data Management Training was held for seven students enrolled in the doctoral programme, Soil and Water Management which is being taught at Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania. This training was held from the 21st to the 23rd of September 2012 at the Imperial Botanical Beach Hotel in Entebbe Uganda. The theme of the training was: “strengthening research skills and creativity among postgraduate students. The objective was to equip PhD students with the skills and knowledge in software use (GenStat and SPSS) in data management, analysis and presentation of results in a format that would ensure their wide dissemination as peer reviewed publications and policy briefs.
2. The fourth RUFORUM Principal Investigators (PI) orientation meeting was held on the 23rd of September 2012 at the Imperial Botanical Beach Hotel. The target audience for the 4th RUFORUM PIs Orientation Meeting were the 16 Grant Awardees for the fourth RUFORUM Competitive Grants System Call and were joined by one New PI who did not attend the third Principal Investigators orientation meeting. The main objective of the Principal Investigators (PIs) orientation meeting was to facilitate the achievement of a shared understanding between PIs and RUFORUM Secretariat of the Graduate Research Grants in the context of the RUFORUM mission and aspirations.
3. The twenty-nine Deans of Colleges/Schools/Faculties of Agriculture in the RUFORUM member universities held their meeting on the 23rd of September 2012 at the Imperial Botanical Beach Hotel. The objective of the Deans meeting was to review and provide technical, institutional and operational advice on RUFORUM operations with specific reference to: the progress made by RUFORUM Secretariat since 2011, strengthening operationalization & tracking within universities, the draft Quality Assurance and Credit Accumulation and Transfer handbook, possible areas for strengthening faculties / universities and strategic messages for consideration by the RUFORUM Board and wider AGM.
4. The Principal Investigators and Deans jointly participated in the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning in RUFORUM meeting that was organized by the Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation unit at RUFORUM. The session was designed to generate the following outputs: increased awareness on the importance and use of Theories of Change (TOC) as a basis for improved MEL in universities and in the RUFORUM network, strategies for continued engagement of universities in MEL for improving teaching, research and

outreach, best practices and key actions needed for making changes for the better at/in the universities.

5. The International Advisory Panel (IAP) held its meeting on the 23rd of September 2012 at the Imperial Resort Beach Hotel. The IAP met as part of providing international oversight and quality assurance in relation to RUFORUM's work and related programs.

THE CONFERENCE EVENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

DAY ONE – 24TH SEPTEMBER 2012

The theme for this day was “Collective/Coordinated Action for Agricultural Innovation”. The objectives of the first day were to highlight the role of universities and RUFORUM and identify opportunities for collective/coordinated action for fostering agricultural innovation in Africa through training, research, outreach and partnerships. The day began with an opening ceremony which was followed by a plenary session from morning up to 1300hrs.

OPENING CEREMONY

The RUFORUM Executive Secretary Prof. Adipala Ekwamu gave opening remarks and welcomed the participants. His main message was focused on the change that RUFORUM wanted to see, i.e. high performing African universities that strive to produce skilled, proactive graduates, demand driven research output and innovation in response to regional and national agricultural development priorities.

The high profile speakers for the opening ceremony included Prof. John Ddumba-Ssentamu the Vice Chancellor of Makerere University; Prof. Levi Nyagura the Vice Chancellor of the University of Zimbabwe and the RUFORUM Board Chairman, Ms. Judith Francis the Senior Programme Coordinator S&T at the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) and Mr. Fred Kongongo the Coordinator, Science, Technology & Innovation Program at the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA).

The Minister of State for Higher Education representing the Government of Uganda, Hon. John Chrysotom Musingo re-affirmed that the Ministry of Education and Sports in Uganda would continue to facilitate the operations of RUFORUM in Uganda. He underscored the need for African governments and partners to come up with innovative programmes that would not only increase access to education but also deliver the required skills. Hon. Tress Buchanayandi the Minister of Animal Industry and Fisheries member of the Government of Uganda also addressed the congregation and placed emphasis on the need for partnerships to leverage resources to support agriculture and higher education sectors in Africa. Hon. Tress Buchanayandi said that this was paramount in the developing world and could make a positive contribution in meeting the increasing demand for higher education and thereafter he declared the third RUFORUM Biennial conference open.

MAIN PLENARY SESSION

The main plenary session was chaired by Mr Carlos Seré of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Dr. Moses Osiru the Deputy Executive Secretary of RUFORUM gave an overview of the Biennial Conference programme. The keynote address was given by Dr.

Simon Carter, The IDRC Regional Director for Africa. His paper discussed “global change and the future of African Agriculture” and he responded by outlining the role of Higher Education as: training people to build resilient agricultural systems, training and rewarding people to work collaboratively, building the capacity to learn from mistakes, building trust in institutions and educating people to foster rural innovation systems.

The lead paper was presented by Prof. Patrick Okori the Dean of the School of Agriculture at Makerere University and it focused on how higher education could be orientated to support Africa’s Development. Prof Okori described RUFORUMs four pronged approach for orienting higher education to support Africa’s development - strengthening innovation capacity to improve technological efficiency and productivity; labor productivity improvement targeting graduates and other human resources engaged in the agricultural sector, engaging universities and stakeholders in reform processes for relevance and competitiveness and supporting knowledge based policy development and implementation for short to long term strategic positioning and competitiveness.

Mr. G. Tumushabe the Executive Director of Advocate Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE) in Uganda and Dr. Mamaa Entsua-Mensah the Deputy Director General of CSIR in Ghana responded to the keynote and lead papers.

The plenary was followed by three parallel breakout sessions and two conference side events:

PARALLEL BREAKOUT SESSIONS

1. Session 3 - Improving agricultural productivity through crop improvement
2. Session 4 - Enhancing natural resources management
3. Session 5 - Strengthening science and technology capacity in Africa

SIDE EVENTS

1. CTA/FARA/IFS/ANAFE/RUFORUM/NEPAD/AGRA 3rd Africa-Wide Women & Young Professionals in Science Competitions training on scientific writing, communication and policy advocacy for competition semi-finalists. Two categories of participants submitted abstracts on a range of topics in response to the theme “Feeding 1 billion in Africa in a changing world” - young professionals (25-40 years) in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), North Africa and the Diaspora and women scientists, researchers, educators, extension workers, agro-entrepreneurs and farmers in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), North Africa and the Diaspora. Twenty semi-finalists in each category were selected to take part in the Scientific Writing, Communication and Policy Advocacy Workshop which was held as one of the side events during the third RUFORUM Biennial Conference. The training course

equipped African women scientists and young professionals with the tools to enable them to write and present well-argued and documented innovative and research/scientific work and results that are easy to comprehend and use as well as communicate their work to influence policy and achieve development impact

2. Seventy participants attended the following CTA Information and Knowledge for Development sessions:
 - a. Training of trainers on Information and Communication Management Strategy Development - The objective of this session was to expose the approach to Information & Communication Management (ICM) strategy development to a mixed group of representatives of Agricultural Research for Development institutions who have previously attended the regional workshops on ICM issues and new learners about the ICM strategy development process.
 - b. SMART Toolkit M&E Tools and Methods - The objective of this session was to expose the participants, mostly from University backgrounds, to the principles of monitoring and evaluation of information projects, products and services. The participants used this opportunity to plan the M&E process in the implementation of projects.
 - c. ICT tools for ARD Information Management (VPA, Web 2.0) – Participants to this session were sensitised on the use of ICT tools for agricultural information management and research. This session included practical exposure to approaches like the Visual Problem Appraisal, applied to qualitative research and web2.0 tools for information sharing, online collaboration and community building.

KEY MESSAGES FROM DAY ONE OF THE CONFERENCE

1. Concerns were raised in relation to current university training and research programmes not delivering graduates with required competences
2. Disjointed efforts in addressing challenges – however success stories are available but require deliberate efforts to scale out
3. There is limited consensus on key indicators for success
4. Partnerships are very critical for fine-tuning technologies and doing the science “right”

5. Natural resources management is a complex challenge that requires multi-institutional processes that provide incentives for technology adoption
6. Success stories in critical areas of soil fertility, water and land use management , crop improvement, S & T capacity are at small scale
7. Socio-economic factors such as gender, markets access, access to extension and land ownership require policy intervention
8. Incentives to retain experienced scientists are very critical
9. Do we need change? If so why is that we are not effecting the required change?
10. The youth provide a fertile ground for the development of Science and Technology
11. Value chain development is key to addressing ARD needs
12. Agriculture needs an appropriate locomotive system to move forward

DAY TWO – 25TH SEPTEMBER 2012

The theme for this day was “Enabling environment for agricultural development”. The objectives of the second day were to collate the national, regional and global agricultural transformation trends, challenges, lessons and strategies for putting in place institutional, policy, capacity and investment priorities that would enable agricultural development in Africa with clear roles for RUFORUM and universities in Africa. The day began with a plenary session from morning up to 1150hrs.

MAIN PLENARY SESSION

The main plenary session was chaired by Prof. Ana Mondjana the Deputy Vice Chancellor at Eduardo Mondlane University. The summary of day 1 activities and the introduction of the profile of the events for day 2 was given by Dr. Paul Nampala the Grants Manager at the RUFORUM Secretariat.

Dr Irene Frempong the Director for Capacity Strengthening at the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) delivered the keynote paper entitled “Prospect for agricultural development in Africa and implications for agricultural education”. She emphasized the urgent need for reforms in agricultural education and training across the board for all levels, disciplines and skills – and the need to re-establish agricultural and training to respond to the new century’s challenges.

The lead paper on Brazil Experiences was delivered by Dr Nilceu R.X. de Nazareno the Coordinator of regional research at the Institute of Agronomy, Paraná.

Prof. Dexian He the Deputy Director S&T at the Henan Agricultural University presented the lead paper on the China Experience and focused on agricultural development and transformation in China.

Prof. R.P. Singh the Secretary General of the Indian Agricultural Universities Association presented the lead paper on the India Experience and dwelt on developments in Indian agriculture starting with the Green Revolution and the status today.

A Panel Discussion Focusing on Implications for Africa was held with respondents being Ms. Judith Francis (Senior Programme Coordinator, CTA) and Prof. Fanuel Tagwira (VC, Africa University). The session was concluded with a plenary discussion

The main plenary was followed by three parallel breakout sessions and:

PARALLEL BREAKOUT SESSIONS

1. Session 8 – Improving agricultural productivity through crop improvement

2. Session 9 & 12 – Risk & vulnerability in agriculture
3. Session 10 & 13 – Value chains & innovations
4. Session 11 – Improving agricultural production through crop improvement
5. Session 15 - Poster viewing & exhibitions

SIDE EVENTS

- The CTA Information for Knowledge and Development side event and the CTA / FARA / IFS / ANAFE / RUFORUM / NEPAD / AGRA 3rd Africa-Wide Women & Young Professionals training were held in parallel to the main plenary and the parallel breakout sessions from morning to 1700hrs.
- The following side events were held after the main plenary:
 - Apsara held a meeting with RUFORUM alumni & graduate students
 - There was an intra-ACP meeting for Deans and other stakeholders
 - There was the rural agri-enterprise development project meeting
 - A side event with the theme: “diversifying cooperation: lesson sharing & learning with Brazil, China, India, Africa and Costa Rica” was held at the Imperial Botanical Beach Hotel.

KEY MESSAGES FROM DAY TWO OF THE CONFERENCE

1. The regional approach & the CARP are good
2. Need to scale up the effort by harnessing the networking amongst African partners first, & then bringing on board other partners
3. Partnerships needs to be two-way: Africa also has something to offer
4. Centers of leadership that have been formed under RUFORUM should be strengthened
5. Need to initiate a masters program in Agri-business; across value chains – the beneficiaries will be the graduates at various levels
6. It is critical to track alumni
7. There is a need to harness the ICT to source wide expertise across the region

8. Strengthen the mechanism to focus on the graduate students & disadvantage groups
9. Coaching and mentoring of the youth should be structured
10. There is a need to strengthen research & link it to outreach
11. We must increase domestic investment in the agricultural sector
12. Capacity building should not only focus on degree programs; but also on non-degree programs
13. Professionals are not engaging in farming-as-a-business;
14. How do we re-engineer change that leads to real impact?
15. We need to take action that leads to impact
16. Public-private partnership & public-public partnerships
17. Improving agricultural production through getting our policies right, generating knowledge by leveraging R&D, contextualizing teaching and learning
18. There is a need to: harmonize the definition of the “African farmer” , engage private sector as development partners and identify areas of comparative advantage

DAY THREE – 26TH SEPTEMBER 2012

The theme for this day was “Impact of higher education on agricultural development”. The objectives of the third day were to synthesize the key institutional, technology and procedural requirements for assessing the impact of training, research and advisory services in agricultural development. The day began with a plenary session from morning up to 1130hrs.

MAIN PLENARY SESSION

The main plenary session was chaired by Prof. Rukudzo Murapa of Khulisa Management Services in South Africa. The summary of day 2 activities and the introduction of the profile of the events for day 3 was given by Mrs Agnes Obua-Ogwal the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer at the RUFORUM Secretariat.

Dr Yvonne Pinto the Director Agricultural Learning for Impact Network (ALINE) delivered the keynote paper entitled “Measuring the Impact of Higher Education Interventions in Development”. She concluded by saying that the evaluation of Higher Education programmes had previously strongly focused very on outputs, e.g. individuals trained to a certain standard, and very little on outcomes, in terms of measurable development contributions from individuals or institutions, and even less on societal impacts. This therefore needed to change.

Dr Yona Baguma, a Senior Researcher at the National Agricultural Research Organisation, in Uganda presented the lead paper on: “NARI-University Collaboration for Development Impact”.

Dr Howard Elliott a Private Consultant was the key lead discussant together with the following who brought various perspectives: Dr Luisa Santos (University Perspectives – The Case of Mozambique), Mr. A. Katana (Research Perspectives – The Case of Rwanda), Mrs. Mary Ebukalin (End-User Perspectives – The Case of P’KWI) and Hon Sebuliba Mutumba (Policy and Development Perspectives – MP, Parliament of Uganda).

The main plenary was followed by three parallel breakout sessions and:

PARALLEL BREAKOUT SESSIONS

The following breakout sessions took place after the main plenary:

1. Session 17 - Innovations in Agricultural Information, Communication & Knowledge Management
2. Session 18 - Reflecting on Outcomes of RUFORUM Interventions – Emerging Lessons & Questions
3. Session 19 - Agricultural Marketing, Trade & Policy

4. Session 20 - Addressing Agricultural Bottlenecks
5. Session 21 - Reflecting on Outcomes of RUFORUM Interventions - Emerging Lessons and Questions
6. Session 22 - Animal Health Management
7. Session 23: Capacity Development for Agriculture in Africa. Dr. Frannie Léautier, the Executive Director of the Africa Capacity Building Foundation delivered a keynote paper entitled: "Assessment of Capacity Development in Agriculture".

SIDE EVENTS

- The CTA Information for Knowledge and Development side event and the CTA / FARA / IFS / ANAFE / RUFORUM / NEPAD / AGRA 3rd Africa-Wide Women & Young Professionals training were held in parallel to the main plenary and the parallel breakout sessions from morning to 1700hrs.
- The following side events were held after the main plenary:
 - RUFORUM Board Meeting

KEY MESSAGES FROM DAY TWO OF THE CONFERENCE

1. African countries must position themselves to reap from demographic dividends
2. There is a strong case for Higher Education and Capacity Development
3. Lessons were shared from on-going efforts including personal testimonies
4. Role of Higher Education Institutions & Broad aspects on Capacity Development include: Education and Training; Institutional Strengthening; Consortia and Networks
5. There are high expectation from universities
6. Investment in Higher Education is beneficial to the economy. There is need to carefully formulate evaluation questions to measure impact
7. We saw a case of voluntary cooperation between Research Institutions and Universities

DAY FOUR – 27TH SEPTEMBER 2012

The theme for this day was “the future of Agriculture in Africa” and the objectives were to promote and engage universities to undertake foresight activities taking into consideration emerging issues that impinge on the agricultural sector. The day began with a plenary session from morning up to 1130hrs.

MAIN PLENARY SESSION

The main plenary session was chaired by Prof. Opara Linus Umezuruike of the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa. The summary of day 3 activities and the introduction of the profile of the events for day 4 was given by Prof Adipala Ekwamu the RUFORUM Executive Secretary.

Prof Johan van Rooyen, the Director of the Centre for Agricultural Leadership and Mentorship, at Stellenbosch University delivered the keynote paper on: “emerging and future trends and their impact on Agriculture in Africa – Foresight”.

Prof. L.A. Ogallo, the Director of IGAD-ICPAC presented a lead paper on: “climate change and implication on food and agriculture in Africa”.

Dr. Isaac Minde, Professor of International Development at Michigan State University presented the second lead paper on: “trends in urbanization and income growth in Africa and implications for changing food expenditure patterns and structure of demand for human skills”.

Dr Aldo Stroebe, Mr. Koffi M. Kouakou and Mr Ahmed Salim respondent to all the presentations by giving Africa-wide perspectives, southern African perspectives and east and central African perspectives.

The main plenary was followed by three parallel breakout sessions and:

PARALLEL BREAKOUT SESSIONS

The following breakout sessions took place after the main plenary:

1. Session 25 - Aquaculture and Fisheries
2. Session 26 - Enhancing livestock productivity
3. Session 27 - Promoting IPM Practices
4. Session 29: Graduate student’s meeting
5. Session 30: Meet and greet (Free interaction)

6. Graduate Students Evening

SIDE EVENTS

- The CTA Information for Knowledge and Development side event and the CTA / FARA / IFS / ANAFE / RUFORUM / NEPAD / AGRA 3rd Africa-Wide Women & Young Professionals training were held in parallel to the main plenary and the parallel breakout sessions from morning to 1700hrs.
- The following side events were held after the main plenary:
 - RUFORUM Magnum / Market Place

KEY MESSAGES FROM DAY THREE OF THE CONFERENCE

1. More food will be required for consumption by the increased urban population
2. One of the roles of universities and research institutions in responding to climate change is generating local knowledge
3. The future growth path of African Agriculture will depend on a number of strategies including the stimulation of market linkages to commercialize African agriculture
4. Though RUFORUM has made progress, there is still more to be done, and a request was made to all the stakeholders to continue supporting RUFORUM's work.

DAY FIVE – 28TH SEPTEMBER 2012

The theme for this day was “Agricultural Tertiary Education & Training” and the objectives were to review the capacity gaps in Agricultural Research and Development and identify strategies for action. The second objective was to sensitize and engage African TAE institutions on the TEAM Africa initiative.

The day began with a plenary session from morning up to 1130hrs.

MAIN PLENARY SESSION

The main plenary session was chaired by **Prof. Sharon Siverts the Vice Chancellor of the University of Lesotho**. The summary of day 4 activities and the introduction of the profile of the events for day 5 were given by Nodumo Dhlamini the ICT Manager at the RUFORUM Secretariat.

Nienke Beintema the Program Head at the Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators (ASTI) initiative, IFPRI delivered the key note paper on: “An Overview of Investments in Agricultural Research and Higher Education”.

Dr Teshome Alemneh and Tully R. Cornick of Higher Education for Development (HED) delivered a lead paper on: “Higher Education Partnerships, Experiences and Impact in Africa”.

Mrs. Agnes Obua-Ogwal the M&E Officer at the RUFORUM Secretariat delivered the second lead paper on: “Mobilizing Regional Capacity for Development Impact, the case of RUFORUM”.

A Panel composed of Dr. Joyce Moock, Prof. Opara Linus Umezuruike (University of Stellenbosch) and Prof Shaukat Abdulrazak (KNCST), discussed the keynote presentation and the two lead papers.

FEEDBACK FROM CONFERENCE THEMATIC AREAS

1. Strengthening S&T Capacity in Africa - Dr C.E.S. Larsen

- a. Develop a roadmap through the minefields of institutional change
- b. RUFORUM looks at the many existing examples and try to understand why they have not had broader and more lasting institutional impact
- c. Engage in Academic mobility and Experiential learning
- d. Understand the magnitude of the challenges

2. Africa-Brazil-China-India Side Event - Prof P. Okori

- a. Secured funding can best be achieved by courting and/or intensifying engagement with government.
- b. National stakeholder-grassroots support is critical for credibility and attractiveness of AET institutions as investment vehicles to deliver development impact
- c. Universities encouraged to pursue opportunities via embassies- most current opportunities are government supported.
- d. Seek opportunities that act as springboards for future partnerships (National to supra-national efforts)
- e. Engaging governments as key entry and advocacy mechanisms for international support.

3. Strengthening value chains and innovation platforms - Monica. Kaporiri

- a. Intellectual property rights and reward/recognition for students contributing to development
- b. Scaling up the value chain approach with in Universities and across the 29 universities
- c. Tracking and reporting against outreach and development contributions by universities
- d. In service training of lecturers and supervisors in Action Research and experiential learning

4. Engaging African Youths in Rural Transformation - Dr Patience Mshenga

5. Graduate Students Meeting – Ms Peace Ababo: sample feedback from female students:

- a. Involve stakeholders in curriculum review for example development partners
- b. Get more of student experience
- c. Train lecturers
- d. Use many delivery mechanisms
- e. Training lecturers on soft skills

- f. Use RUFORUM to get in touch with women who can mentor
- g. Female lecturers should be prioritized
- h. Lecturers should sign performance contracts
- i. Proper remuneration of lecturers
- j. Students should evaluate lecturers

6. Reflecting on outcomes of RUFORUM interventions – emerging lessons & questions - Dr Moses Osiru

- a. Some mechanism for tracking linkages within and between universities should be established
- b. More systematic mechanisms for tracking changes at the community level are required.
- c. Mechanisms to support learning from community based activities need to be established (within and across universities)
- d. Operationalise tracking mechanisms to measure changes, linkages and value addition at different levels (based on TOC)
- e. Develop and strengthen learning mechanisms at the RUFORUM level (all constituents), including 'learning about learning'

7. CTA-Women in science and young professionals - Ms Judith Francis

8. CTA-Information and knowledge for development – Ms Christine Webster

9. Poster evaluation feedback - Dr Richard Hawkins

SIDE EVENTS

- The CTA Information for Knowledge and Development side event and the CTA / FARA / IFS / ANAFE / RUFORUM / NEPAD / AGRA 3rd Africa-Wide Women & Young Professionals training were held from morning to 1100hrs

LAUNCH OF TEAM AFRICA

TEAM-Africa's vision for change of learning paradigm - A transformed approach to TAE in Africa will be designed to produce active Knowledge Creators as opposed to Knowledge Containers

Sample Conference Feedback

From: Kay Leresche [<mailto:bandroop@gmail.com>]

Sent: 30 September 2012 17:34

To: Adipala, Ekwamu; Birungi, Irene

Subject: Please forward to All Staff AND Interns

Dear Adipala or Irene

To all the members of RUFORUM Secretariat including drivers, office staff, secretaries, program assistants, program managers, program directors, senior admin and finance staff and also the interns, various graduates co-opted and temporary staff you may have hired to assist

My VERY sincere Congratulations and thanks to Each and Every one of you. The Biennium was a huge success despite any small things that may have kept going wrong and leaving you all exhausted. The

From: Dnielson@worldbank.org [<mailto:Dnielson@worldbank.org>]

Sent: 01 October 2012 22:15

To: Adipala, Ekwamu; Cc: leifec

Subject: RE:

Hi Adipala

Thanks for your note - and congratulations on your event last week - I hear from everyone that it was a real success.

From: Francis, J. [<mailto:Francis@cta.int>]

Sent: Monday, October 01, 2012 9:13 PM

To: Adipala, Ekwamu

Cc: Dhlamini, Nodumo; Ekaya, Wellington; Osiru, Moses

Subject: CTA - Judith says thanks and congratulations

Adipala:

I returned home safely and have been busy all day. However, I did not want to go home without saying thanks to RUFORUM for working with CTA (m) to ensure that our science competition training workshop was a success. Special thanks go to Nodumo, who took charge of the science competition project, gave it her all and made it work. Thanks also to Wellington, for giving the workshop the priority that he did during the week. That was an example of partnership and team work in action. So, congrats to you and the RUFORUM team; the CTA-RUFORUM partnership worked well..

As an IAP member, the Biennial conference was an overall success. There were many pointers for RUFORUM. However, I did not see these reflected in the final communiqué. I suggest that you review the communiqué carefully, include some of the key messages from Joyce Mook's paper and the lead paper from South Africa on Emerging trends and their impacts on Agriculture in Africa by Prof Johan van Rooyen on Thursday, to ensure some of the new ideas for RUFORUM are not lost. I got the impression when I was dining (as per your instructions – smile) with the donors; Gates and Master card and VCs, that they all wanted to see some new ideas.

Again. Congrats to you and your loyal RUFORUM team for a job well done

Concluding Remarks

Appendices

Conference Communiqué

Conference Concept Note;

PI Orientation Concept Note;

Deans Meeting Concept Note;

ME&L Concept Note;

Africa/China/India/Brazil Side Event Concept Note;

Speeches;

RUFORUM Magnum Concept Note;

Launch of TEAM Africa Concept Note;

Graduate Students Meeting Concept Note;

Information and Knowledge for Development Concept Note, Training
for Women in Science & Young Professionals Concept Note,

Scientific Data Management Concept Note;

List of participants

Conference Programme

Conference Communiqué

Conference Papers

Papers Submitted

Posters Submitted